be introduced in 1992 in Gangapur-Hindon-Karoli Towns of Rajasthan has not yet been started; and

(f) whether the expansion of telephone services is allowed on political considerations and if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The telephone services in the country is considered good and is on par or better than many developing countries in the world. No State has service comparable to advanced countries like U.S.A. or Japan.

(b) The expansion of telephone services in a particular State is subject to the extent of registered demand. There is an overall shortage of equipment. Available equipment is allotted roughly in proportion to the registered demand.

(c) The provision of STD facility to sub-divisional headquarters and tehsil headquarters all over the country have been given priority during the Eighth Plan. All tehsil headquarters in Uttar Pradesh have not been connected with STD facilities.

(d) The communication services in Rajasthan are not lacking and are satisfactory.

(e) The STD services at Gangapur-Hindon-Karoli could not be started during 1992 as these exchanges were of manual type. However, STD facilities have since been provided at Gangapur City and Karoli on 22-1-93 and 21-2-93 respectively. Hindon is likely to be provided STD facility by 31-3-93.

(f) No, Sir.

Rules for Publications of Telephone Director

1592. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the rules regarding publication of a telephone directory;

(b) whether these rules and norms are not followed in Gujarat while publishing telephone directory; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, Telephone Directories in English are published Secondary Switching Area-wise once in a year. These are also published in Hindi and Regional Languages when there is a reasonable demand for the same, which should normally be about 15% of the total requirement of telephone directories.

(b) and (c) The rules and norms have been followed with regard to publication of telephone directory in Gujarat. However, in some cases, the publication has been delayed due to procedural difficulties in finalising the tenders, award of contracts and due to delay on the part of the contractors.

गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश में डाक वितरण व्यवस्था की खराब स्थिति

1593. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी :**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :–

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ स्थानों पर डाक वितरण व्यवस्था खराब हो गयी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) इन स्थानों पर डाक सेवा में सुधार करने हेतु सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) और (ख) उत्तर प्रदेश में डाक वितरण व्यवस्था में कोई गिरावट नहीं आई है । तथापि, गुजरात में बड़े शहरों/कस्बों के बाह्य क्षेत्रों में नई कालोनियों के निर्माण में यदा कदा इस संबंध में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ।

(ग) गुजरात में स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए निम्नलिखित कदम उठाए गए हैं :—

(i) पर्यवेक्षण कड़ा कर दिया गया है ।

(ii) जहां आवश्यक है, वहां वितरण स्टाफ के क्षेत्रों का पुनर्समायोजन तथा उनकी पुन: तैनाती के आदेश दिए गए हैं ।

(iii) औचित्यपरक अतिरिक्त स्टाफ के लिए कर्मचारियों की संख्या की पुनरीक्षा करनी शुरू की गई है ।

Providing S.T.D. facilities on National Highways

1594. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had been taking steps to provide STD facilities on the Naional Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that regard on the National Highways passing through the State of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Madhya Pradesh also STD Public Telephones are being installed initially at an average spacing of 50 kms.

(c) Total number of STD Public Telephones provided till date at a spacing of 50 kms—39.

Telecommunication facilities in Villages

1595. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government has undertaken any scheme for connecting the far off villages in the country-side with telecommunication net work where there is no road or electricity;

(b) if so, what are such devices;

(c) how many villages are being covered by such scheme state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The present programme is to provide Telephone Facility to all Gram Panchayat Villages by 1-4-95, irrespective of the availability of road or electricity.

(b) The devices used for these are multi-access rural radio telephones with solar panels and also conventional Open Wire lines.

(c) The number of Panchayat Villages likely to be covered during 92-93 State-wise is indicated in the attached statement. [*See* below]

Statement

Target for 1992-93

Sl. No.	Circle	Target for 1992-93
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3050
2.	Assam	550
3.	Bihar	2000
4.	Gujarat	3000
5.	Haryana	1200
6.	Himachal Pradesh	200
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	125
8.	Karnataka	1500
9.	Kerala	Nil
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5000
11.	Maharashtra	5000
12.	North East	417
13.	Orissa	1000
14.	Punjab	2000
15.	Rajasthan	1800
16.	Tamil Nadu	2000
17.	Uttar Pradesh	6858
18.	West Bengal	800
19.	MTNL, New Delhi	9
	TOTAL	36,509

Request for an additional post of Chief General Manager (Telecom.) for Arunachal Pradesh

1596. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Arunachal Pradesh